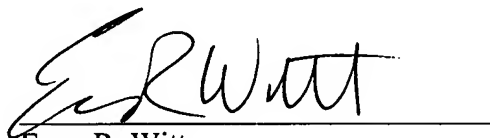


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of original claim 2. The Office Action stated that claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and dependent claims 3-10 are allowable. New independent claim 11 is the same as original claim 9, written in independent form. The Office Action stated that claim 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Dependent claims 12-18 correspond to original claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10, respectively. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 and dependent claims 12-18 are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests entry of new claims 12-18 despite only deleting one other claim because entry of the new claims does not raise any new issues, the subject matter of the pending claims has been previously considered and found to be allowable by the Examiner, and entry of the Amendment is permitted under 37 CFR 1.116. If for any reason the Examiner refuses to enter claims 12-18, then please delete these claims and only enter claim 11. Claims 12-18 will be submitted in an Amendment under 37 CFR 1.312 after receipt of a Notice of Allowance.

If there are any issues remaining which prevent the allowance of claims 1 and 3-18, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. R. Witt", is written over a horizontal line.

Evan R. Witt
Reg. No. 32,512
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Date: October 6, 2004

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